

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment reduces the overall number of claims from 44 to 27, and eliminates multiple dependencies from the claims. These amendments thus reduce the total amount of filing fee required for entering the national phase.

Entry of these amendments and examination in due course are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger T. Frost
Reg. No. 22,176

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
Suite 2800
1100 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
(404) 815-6500
Our Docket: 46309/268666

206070-236066001

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Amendments in the Claims

22. (Amended) A laminar mat as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1 wherein at least one of the planar layers includes a coating which has one of high grip properties, anti-static properties and non-slip properties.

24. (Amended) A laminar mat as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1 wherein at least one of said planar layers is textured by the mould during moulding.

28. (Amended) A laminar mat as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1, the mat including a non-slip backing material attached thereto.

38. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any of claims 32 to 37] claim 32, the method further including the steps of:

including on one of said planar layers heat-activated adhesive means on a lamina of heat conductive material,

after removing the moulded tile from the mould, positioning backing material on said layer of the tile using alignment means to align the tile and backing material,

and activating the heat activated adhesive to bond the backing material to the tile.

40. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 38 [or 39] wherein said heat conductive material is aluminum foil.

41. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any of claims 38 to 40]
claim 32 including the step of providing alignment means on the tile, said alignment
means serving to align the backing material before activation of the adhesive.

Claims 13-21, 25, 27, 34-37, 43, and 44 are cancelled.